

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) MethodA method for the production of geotextiles of melt-spun filaments through hydrodynamic intertwining, said method comprising:

depositing wherein the melt-spun filaments are deposited onto a continuous screen band in a suction zone, wherein the filaments are held onto the screen band by suction,

compacting the filaments onto the screen band,

transporting the filaments to a first curing stage, and

hydrodynamically intertwining the filaments in the first curing stage, wherein the filaments are sufficiently cured such that the filaments may be transported to additional curing stages without support from the screen band

~~are transported on this screen band through the first curing stage, wherein the filaments additionally during the entire process are fixed through suction zones on the screen band and in this manner are already sufficiently cured in the first curing stage, such that the transport free of disturbance without a transport band is possible.~~

2. (Currently Amended) MethodThe method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the screen band is guided through all further comprising guiding the filaments through one or more additional curing stages.

3. (Currently Amended) MethodThe method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising applying wherein the suction zones an underpressure of 1 to 100 mbar to the filaments is applied.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Withdrawn-currently amended) ApparatusAn apparatus for the production of geotextiles of melt-spun filaments, wherein beneath the deposition apparatus is guided a screen band, to which suction zones are applied and the screen band is guided up to the first curing device.

7. **(Withdrawn-currently amended)** Geotextiles produced according to a the method as claimed in claim 1.
8. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first curing stage, the screen band serves as a filter, and water jets act through the screen band, wherein the mesh size of the screen band is 1-8 cm⁻¹.
9. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first curing stage, the screen band serves as a support and has a mesh size of 10-100 cm⁻¹.